

Application No.: 09/974040

Case No.: 56685US002

**REMARKS**

With this response, an earnest effort has been made to respond to all issues raised in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. The Examiner was correct to note that claim 1 had apparently been amended: the limitations of "having average effective diameters of less than 20 microns and transverse aspect ratios of from 1.5:1 to 20:1" had been accidentally omitted from the claim in the last response. Applicant's Agent regrets the error. Claims 50-53 are now correctly listed. In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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